

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UNCLAS STATE 306032

USEEC

FOL CARACAS12367 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO USIA ABU DHABI
ALGIERS BONN BRASILIADOHA JAKARTA JIDDA KUWAIT LAGOS LIBREVILLE
LONDON MANAMA MUSCAT PARIS QUITO ROME TEHRAN TOKYO TRIPOLI
OTTAWA VIENNA BAGHDAD DHAHRAN DEC 21, 1977 REPEATED TO YOU
QUOTE

UNCLAS CARACAS 12367

USIA FOR IOP/M

EO 11652 NA
TAGS: ENRG VE
SUBJ: CARACAS OPEC CONFERENCE ADJOURNS

REF: A CARACAS 12255, B CARACAS 12311
C CARACAS 12330 D CARACAS 12331

1. AT APPROX 2PM LOCAL TIME, OPEC SECRETARY
GENERAL ALI M HAIDAH HELD A BRIEFING THAT WAS RESTRICTED TO
OFFICIAL PRESS REPRESENTATIVES. OUR CONTACTS AT THE MEETING
REPORTED THE FOLLOWING TO EMBASSY OFFICERS:

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THE OPEC MEETING HAS BEEN ADJOURNED AS OF WEDNESDAY
AFTERNOON. THE SECRETARY GENERAL SAID THERE IS AN
INABILITY TO REACH CONSENSUS ON PRICES. BUT IT HAS
BEEN AGREED NOT RPT NOT TO DISAGREE. THE INTER-
PRETATION OF THIS STATEMENT IS THAT PRICES WILL NOT BE
RAISED, AND INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES WHO HAD WANTED A DECISION

AT THIS MEETING TO INCREASE PRICES WILL NOT RPT NOT
RAISE PRICES UNILATERALLY WHEN THEY RETURN
HOME. THE SECRETARY GENERAL ADDED THAT THE NEXT OPEC
CONFERENCE WILL BE CONVENED JUNE 15, 1978. EARLIER IN 1978
THERE WILL BE AN AD HOC MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE
MEETING TO CONSIDER RELATIVE VALUES OF HEAVY CRUDES.
THE SECRETARY GENERAL ALSO REPORTED THAT THE CARACAS
CONFEREES HAD DISCUSSED THE WEAKENING OF THE US DOLLAR
AND HAD INSTRUCTED THE OPEC SECRETARIAT TO CARRY OUT A
STUDY AND PROPOSE REMEDIAL MEASURES TO SAFEGUARD THE
INTERESTS OF THE MEMBER COUNTRIES.

2. COMMENT: EMBASSY IS ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN MORE
SPECIFIC LANGUAGE ON PRICE DECISION WHICH WE WILL
TRANSMIT ASAP. CROWLEY UNQUOTE VANCE

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